

ange Tip. Though not included on the Bombay list there are three specimens in the Society's collection, collected by N. B. Kinnear in Bombay in 1972. I have a male specimen taken at Devnar (below Trombay Hill) on 14th February 1973.

3, RESHMA APARTMENTS,  
13 PALI HILL,  
BANDRA,  
BOMBAY 400 050,  
May 20, 1980.

*Arnetta vindhiana vindhiana* (Moore)—The Vindhyan Bob. I have a male specimen taken on 9th February 1975 in the Borivli National Park. The species has been recorded from Matheran (see Aitken and Comber, loc. cit., p. 53).

SALMAN ABDULALI

## 26. STRANGE PRACTICE OF A CATERPILLAR

The incident recorded by A. S. Bhaduri (1980, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 76 (2): 368) under this heading is by no means unusual. In fact it is the usual method adopted by all Hesperiid larvae to prevent their habitation being fouled by frass. They possess a special organ, a comb-like flap, at the anus with which

they flip the pellet of frass well away from their domicile. The action is purely automatic. The butterfly with 'white-spotted black wings' observed on the near-by wall was almost certainly the imago that had emerged from the *Curcuma*-feeding caterpillar, probably *Celaenorhinus* sp.

P. O. Box 95617,  
MOMBASA,  
KENYA,  
July 15, 1980.

D. G. SEVASTOPULO

## 27. *VICIA MONANTHA* RETZ. AND *SPOROBOLUS AIROIDES* (TORR.) TORR.—NEW TO INDIAN FLORA

During botanical exploration of Bikaner and Churu districts (Western Rajasthan), two interesting plants namely *Vicia monantha* Retz. (*Papilionaceae*) and *Sporobolus airoides* (Torr.) Torr. (*Gramineae*) were collected. A perusal of relevant literature on the flora of India and studies at Central National Herbarium, Calcutta revealed that these are new additions to the flora of India. *Vicia monan-*

*tha* Retz. (syn. *V. griffithii* Baker) had, however, been included in J. D. Hooker's *FLORA OF BRITISH INDIA* 2:178. 1876 on the basis of specimens collected from Puniab and Baluchistan (Rawal Pindae and Futtējyung: *Griffith* 1114, *Clarke* 105 CAL). *Sporobolus airoides* (Torr.) Torr., a native of North America, is said to be introduced into India during present century as a fodder grass (Bor. N. L.